

Federal Aviation Administration, DOT

§ 121.1

13. *Expiration.* This Special Federal Aviation Regulation terminates on October 2, 2005, unless sooner terminated.

[SFAR-58, 55 FR 40275, Oct. 2, 1990, as amended at 60 FR 51851, Oct. 3, 1995; SFAR 58-2, 61 FR 34560, July 2, 1996; Amdt. 121-280, 65 FR 60336, Oct. 10, 2000]

SPECIAL FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATION No. 78

EDITORIAL NOTE: For the text of SFAR No. 78, see part 91 of this chapter.

SPECIAL FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATION 80—ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISPATCHING PROCEDURES

1. *Applicability.* This Special Federal Aviation Regulation applies to each holder of an air carrier or operating certificate (hereafter, certificate holder) that meets one of the following eligibility requirements:

a. The certificate holder conducts scheduled operations with airplanes having a passenger-seat configuration of 30 seats or fewer, excluding each crewmember seat, and a payload capacity of 7,500 pounds or less under part 121 of this chapter.

b. The certificate holder conducts domestic operations in Alaska under part 121 of this chapter.

2. *Alternative requirements.*

a. If an operator described in paragraph 1.a. of this SFAR is conducting a flight with an airplane described in 1.a. and if communications cannot be maintained over the entire route (which would be contrary to the requirements of § 121.99 of this chapter), such an operator may continue to operate over such a route subject to approval by the Administrator. In granting such approval the Administrator considers the following:

i. The operator has an established dispatch communication system.

ii. Gaps in communication are not over the entire route, but only over portions of the route.

iii. When communication gaps occur, they occur due to one or more of the following:

A. Lack of infrastructure.

B. Geographical considerations.

C. Assigned operating altitude.

iv. Procedures are established for the prompt re-establishment of communications.

v. The operator has presented a plan or schedule for coming into compliance with the requirements in § 121.99 of this chapter.

b. A certificate holder who conducts domestic operations in Alaska may, notwithstanding the requirements of § 121.99 of this chapter, use a communications system operated by the United States for those operations.

c. An operator described in paragraph 1.a. of this SFAR who conducts operations in

Alaska may share the aircraft dispatcher required by § 121.395 with another operator described in paragraph 1.a. of this SFAR who conducts operations in Alaska if authorized to do so by the Administrator. Before granting such an authorization, the Administrator considers:

i. The operators' joint plans for complying with the aircraft dispatcher training rules in subpart N of part 121 of this chapter and the aircraft dispatcher qualification and duty time limitation rules in subpart P of part 121 of this chapter.

ii. The number of flights for which the aircraft dispatcher would be responsible.

iii. Whether the responsibilities of the dispatcher would be beyond the capability of a single dispatcher.

3. *Expiration.* This Special Federal Aviation Regulation terminates on March 12, 2001, unless sooner terminated.

[SFAR-80, 62 FR 13255, Mar. 19, 1997; 62 FR 15570, Apr. 1, 1997]

Subpart A—General

§ 121.1 Applicability.

This part prescribes rules governing—

(a) The domestic, flag, and supplemental operations of each person who holds or is required to hold an Air Carrier Certificate or Operating Certificate under part 119 of this chapter.

(b) Each person employed or used by a certificate holder conducting operations under this part including maintenance, preventive maintenance, and alteration of aircraft.

(c) Each person who applies for provisional approval of an Advanced Qualification Program curriculum, curriculum segment, or portion of a curriculum segment under SFAR No. 58 of 14 CFR part 121, and each person employed or used by an air carrier or commercial operator under this part to perform training, qualification, or evaluation functions under an Advanced Qualification Program under SFAR No. 58 of 14 CFR part 121.

(d) Nonstop sightseeing flights conducted with airplanes having a passenger-seat configuration of 30 seats or fewer and a maximum payload capacity of 7,500 pounds or less that begin and end at the same airport, and are conducted within a 25 statute mile radius of that airport; however, except for operations subject to SFAR 50-2 of 14 CFR part 121, these operations, when

conducted for compensation or hire, must comply only with §§121.455 and 121.457, except that an operator who does not hold an air carrier certificate or an operating certificate is permitted to use a person who is otherwise authorized to perform aircraft maintenance or preventive maintenance duties and who is not subject to FAA-approved anti-drug and alcohol misuse prevention programs to perform—

(1) Aircraft maintenance or preventive maintenance on the operator's aircraft if the operator would otherwise be required to transport the aircraft more than 50 nautical miles further than the repair point closest to the operator's principal base of operations to obtain these services; or

(2) Emergency repairs on the operator's aircraft if the aircraft cannot be safely operated to a location where an employee subject to FAA-approved programs can perform the repairs.

(e) Each person who is on board an aircraft being operated under this part.

(f) Each person who is an applicant for an Air Carrier Certificate or an Operating Certificate under part 119 of this chapter, when conducting proving tests.

[Doc. No. 28154, 60 FR 65925, Dec. 20, 1995]

§ 121.2 Compliance schedule for operators that transition to part 121; certain new entrant operators.

(a) *Applicability.* This section applies to the following:

(1) Each certificate holder that was issued an air carrier or operating certificate and operations specifications under the requirements of part 135 of this chapter or under SFAR No. 38-2 of 14 CFR part 121 before January 19, 1996, and that conducts scheduled passenger-carrying operations with:

(i) Nontransport category turbo-propeller powered airplanes type certificated after December 31, 1964, that have a passenger seat configuration of 10–19 seats;

(ii) Transport category turbo-propeller powered airplanes that have a passenger seat configuration of 20–30 seats; or

(iii) Turbojet engine powered airplanes having a passenger seat configuration of 1–30 seats.

(2) Each person who, after January 19, 1996, applies for or obtains an initial air carrier or operating certificate and operations specifications to conduct scheduled passenger-carrying operations in the kinds of airplanes described in paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii), or paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section.

(b) *Obtaining operations specifications.* A certificate holder described in paragraph (a)(1) of this section may not, after March 20, 1997, operate an airplane described in paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii), or (a)(1)(iii) of this section in scheduled passenger-carrying operations, unless it obtains operations specifications to conduct its scheduled operations under this part on or before March 20, 1997.

(c) *Regular or accelerated compliance.* Except as provided in paragraphs (d), (e), and (i) of this section, each certificate holder described in paragraphs (a)(1) of this section shall comply with each applicable requirement of this part on and after March 20, 1997 or on and after the date on which the certificate holder is issued operations specifications under this part, whichever occurs first. Except as provided in paragraphs (d) and (e) of this section, each person described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section shall comply with each applicable requirement of this part on and after the date on which that person is issued a certificate and operations specifications under this part.

(d) *Delayed compliance dates.* Unless paragraph (e) of this section specifies an earlier compliance date, no certificate holder that is covered by paragraph (a) of this section may operate an airplane in 14 CFR part 121 operations on or after a date listed in this paragraph (d) unless that airplane meets the applicable requirement of this paragraph (d):

(1) *Nontransport category turbo-propeller powered airplanes type certificated after December 31, 1964, that have a passenger seat configuration of 10–19 seats.* No certificate holder may operate under this part an airplane that is described in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section on or after a date listed in paragraph (d)(1) of this section unless that airplane meets the applicable requirement listed in paragraph (d)(1) of this section: